



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: N. Aoyama
Serial No.: 09/376,651
Filed: August 18, 1998
TITLE: FEED ASSISTANCE MEMBER AND A MEDIUM PROCESSING APPARATUS

Examiner: Cone, D.
Group Art Unit: 2854
Docket No.: JA9-98-073

Handwritten initials and date: *JA*
Jon
4/22/00

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 17, 2000.

David W. Victor

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the first Office Action, dated December 15, 1999 in which the Examiner rejected the one pending claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of prior art. Applicant has amended claim 1 and added claims 2-17 and submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 and add claims 2 to 17 as follows:

1. (Amended) A feed assistance apparatus arranged in a feed path of a medium to be processed in a medium processing apparatus, said feed path including at least one feed roller of non-circular cross section for feeding said medium, said feed assistance apparatus comprising:
a roller portion contacting said medium being fed to increase a frictional force generated on said medium; and

Handwritten letter: *A*